

# Battle Creek Current



April 2016

## City Manager's Corner



City Manager Rebecca Fleury

I remember hearing the motto, "reduce, reuse, recycle" as a student.

As an adult, I now understand just how important that is; not only to recite, but to live. We in Battle Creek take recycling seriously and want to provide as many opportunities to recycle as possible.

Our city facilities have recycling containers that are put to good use and this month we roll out our new recycling program in partnership with Waste Management.

Each customer will receive a 96-gallon recycling container to hold your recyclables. With a lid

and wheels, we hope it will be easier to get to the curb and keep your items dry and contained.

Each one of us needs to do our part in reducing the amount of solid waste that goes into our landfills. Recycling is one of the best ways to do this!

Make it a family event to see how much you can reduce your regular garbage by increasing your recycling efforts. Can you fill your new container? That is my challenge to each of you!

Read more on the new program in this edition of the Current!

Happy Spring!

### Have you tried a [Full Blast Fitness Center](#) membership??

\*For \$20 per month, use the fitness center, walking track, courts and locker rooms. Ages 14 and up, please.

\*A 12-month membership is \$185, with a spouse membership for \$140. For three or more family members, it's \$95 per additional person.

\*A day pass is \$5 and a Walk & Play membership is \$15 per month for use of the walking track, courts and locker rooms (ages 3 and up).

\*Join us 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

**35 Hamblin Ave. / 269-966-3667**

### City Calendar

For more, visit [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov) and [www.battlecreekvisitors.org/events](http://www.battlecreekvisitors.org/events).

- **City Commission**, 7 p.m., City Hall: April 12 (due to spring break), April 19, May 3, May 17, June 7, June 21
- **City Manager Performance Evaluation Committee**, 1 p.m., City Hall: April 13
- **City Commission/Planning Commission** Joint Budget Workshop, 6 p.m., Dept. Public Works, 150 S. Kendall, April 21
- **City Commission Budget Workshop**, 6 p.m., Dept. Public Works, May 19
- **Civil Service Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: April 25, May 23, June 27
- **Dangerous Buildings**, 1 p.m., City Hall: April 13, May 11, June 8
- **Historic District Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: April 11, May 9, June 13
- **Housing Board of Appeals**, 1 p.m., City Hall: April 20, May 18, June 15

- **Planning Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: April 27, May 25, June 22
- Planning Commission **petition deadline**: April 29, May 27
- **Police/Fire Retirement System Board**, 10 a.m., City Hall: April 18, May 16, June 20
- **Sustainable BC Committee**, 4 p.m., Dept. Public Works: April 6, June 1
- **Transit Local Coordinating Committee**: 1:30 p.m., Dept. Public Works, June 14
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**, 4 p.m., City Hall: April 12, May 10, June 14
- Historic District/Zoning Board **petition deadline**: April 15, May 20, June 17
- **Master Plan** city corridor workshops, May 10 & 11. Open to the public. More details to come.
- **Yard Waste pickup**: Continues thru Dec. 2. City residents only. Place items at curb on regular pickup day.
- **Spring cleanup**: May 2-6 at residential curbside, includes up to 10 cubic yards

construction waste. City residents only.

- **Electronics & Styrofoam collection**: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 30, Dept. of Public Works, 150 S. Kendall St. More at [calhouncountyrecycling.com](http://calhouncountyrecycling.com) or 269-969-6341.
- **Household Hazardous Waste collection**: 10 a.m.-noon May 7, Toeller Building, 190 E. Michigan Ave. More at [calhouncountyrecycling.com](http://calhouncountyrecycling.com) or 269-969-6341. 10 a.m.-noon June 4, county building parking lot, Hanover/Grand streets, Marshall
- **Children's Water Festival**: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. May 20, Kellogg Community College. More at [www.bcwater.org](http://www.bcwater.org) or 269-966-0712.
- **Spring Into the Arts**: 5-9 p.m. May 20, downtown Battle Creek. Evening art walk!
- City offices **CLOSED** Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. Transit bus/van services canceled. Waste Management closed; 1-day delay rest of the week.
- **Scrap tire collection**: 9 a.m.-noon June 11, 130 E. Burr Oak Road, Athens. More at [calhouncountyrecycling.com](http://calhouncountyrecycling.com) or 269-969-6341. 9 a.m.-noon June 25, 537 N. Church St., Tekonsha



City Hall

10 N. Division St., Battle Creek, MI  
49014

[www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov)

**City Manager**, 269-966-3378

Fax, 269-966-6654

**City Clerk**, 269-966-3348

**Code Compliance**, 269-966-3387

**Fire Department** administration,  
195 E. Michigan Ave., 269-966-3519

**Police Department**, 20 N. Division  
St., 269-966-3322

**Non-emergency**, 269-781-0911

**Department of Public Works**, 150  
S. Kendall St., 269-966-3343

**Parks & Recreation/Full Blast Fit-  
ness Center**, 35 Hamblin Ave., 269-  
966-3431

**Transit**, 339 W. Michigan Ave., 269-  
966-3474

**Utility Billing**, 269-966-3366

**W.K. Kellogg Airport**, 15551 S.  
Airport Road, 269-966-3470

#### City Commission

Mayor Dave Walters, Ward 5  
269-209-0626

Vice Mayor Susan Baldwin, at-large  
269-963-6901

Deb Owens, Ward 1  
269-420-4031

Lynn Ward Gray, Ward 2  
269-830-2456

Kate Flores, Ward 3  
269-832-2912

Michael Sherzer, Ward 4  
269-420-0384

Mark Behnke, at-large  
269-441-7663

Kaytee Faris, at-large  
734-330-6236

Andy Helmboldt, at-large  
269-660-9659

## Connect with us!



[City of Battle Creek, Michigan](http://CityofBattleCreekMichigan.com)



[@BattleCreekCity](https://twitter.com/BattleCreekCity)



[@cityofbattlecreekmi](https://www.instagram.com/cityofbattlecreekmi)



[PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov)

[CityClerk@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:CityClerk@battlecreekmi.gov)

See our website for a full [staff directory](#).



Learn more about city departments and ser-  
vices on Commissioner Lynn Ward Gray's  
AccessVision TV show, *Keeping You Informed*. It  
appears on Channels 17 and 917 at 6 p.m.  
Wednesdays and online, [accessvision.tv](http://accessvision.tv).

**April:** New recycling program

**May:** Master Plan update

## Recycle Often, Recycle Right!

We're borrowing that slogan  
from [Waste Management](#), our  
trash, yard waste and recycling  
hauler!

We're excited to offer a new  
recycling program this month,  
which means you'll receive a  
new, 96-gallon green rolling  
cart with a yellow lid for recy-  
cling.

Here are some of the most  
frequently asked questions  
about the new program. See  
much more information, in-  
cluding what to recycle, at  
[www.battlecreekmi.gov/  
recycling](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov/recycling).

**When will I receive my  
new cart?** They are scheduled  
to be delivered from April 11  
to 22 and we anticipate you  
will receive it on your regular  
pickup day. You may start using  
your cart right away.

**I don't have a recycle bin  
now. How do I get a new  
cart?** If you're a city utility  
customer, you don't have to do  
anything and you will automati-  
cally receive a new cart.

**Is there a cost for the new  
cart?** No. Every residential  
home in the city will receive  
the new cart from Waste Man-  
agement for no extra fee or  
monthly rental fee. The 30-day  
trash/recycling rate generally  
will see a slight increase April  
1, from \$16.55 to \$16.97.

**How often will Waste Man-  
agement pick up the new  
carts?** Pickup will continue to

be weekly. If your cart isn't full a  
particular week, you don't have  
to place it out at the curb.

**Where should I place the  
cart for pickup?** Place it on the  
curb, as close to the edge as pos-  
sible, with the handles facing your  
home. Keep space between the  
cart and other objects, like a  
mailbox or trash cart. Please  
don't park on the  
street in front of  
your containers  
on your sched-  
uled pickup day.

**Why are the  
carts so large?**  
We hope it en-  
courages resi-  
dents to recycle  
as much as possible and allow for  
bulky items, like five-gallon buck-  
ets and cardboard, to be recycled  
easily. The large container with a  
lid will keep your items con-  
tained, eliminating litter, and dry.

**I don't think I can manage  
such a large cart. What can I  
do?** We ask you to try it for at  
least a couple of weeks. You also  
can consider backyard service—  
drivers will collect your carts  
(trash, recycling and yard waste)  
from your backyard or other  
designated location. Effective  
April 1, the 30-day rate for that  
service is \$26.33. Those eligible  
may apply for the senior/disabled  
rate of \$16.73. Contact the city's  
Utility Billing Division to apply,  
269-966-3366. Those who al-  
ready pay for backyard service  
automatically will have the new

carts collected as part of that  
service.

**Can I keep my orange bin?**

No. Waste Management will pick  
up the orange/green bins at the  
curb as they drop off the new  
carts. They will be recycled.

**Can I use the cart for trash or  
yard waste?** No. It is labeled for

recycling only and driv-  
ers will not pick up  
carts filled with other  
items. Call Waste Man-  
agement to rent 96-  
gallon carts for trash  
and/or yard waste.

**What should I put in  
my cart?** Plastic bot-  
tles and containers #1-  
7, cans, paper, flattened

cardboard and paperboard, food  
and beverage cartons, all colors of  
glass bottles and containers. Place  
everything into your cart togeth-  
er; no plastic bags, please. No  
sorting is necessary. Please rinse  
containers. Caps and labels can  
remain on.

DO NOT put the following in  
your cart: food waste, plastic bags  
and film, Styrofoam, needles. Pizza  
boxes are OK as long as the food  
is scraped off.

**I have other questions. Who  
can I call?** Call Waste Manage-  
ment Customer Service, 866-797-  
9018 or [Tiffany Welsh](mailto:Tiffany.Welsh@battlecreekmi.gov), the city  
environmental programs coordi-  
nator, 269-966-0712.

We welcome your feedback as  
the new program begins! Send to  
[PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov).



The Battle Creek Current is compiled and  
designed by Communications Specialist  
Jessica VanderKolk: 269-966-3378 or  
[PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov).